

Mineral Industry Surveys

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ALUMINUM IN FEBRUARY 2007

Domestic primary aluminum production in February was 184,703 metric tons (t), according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The average daily production rate was 6,597 t, 1% higher than that of the previous month and 3% higher than the rate for February 2006. Total aluminum recovered from scrap in February 2007 was 227,000 t, 12% lower than that of January 2007 and 7% lower than in February 2006. In February 2007, 148,000 t of aluminum was recovered from new scrap, which was 8% lower than in January and 6% lower than in February 2006. Aluminum recovered from old scrap totaled 79,000 t in February, which was 19% lower than in the previous month and 7% lower than in February 2006.

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot in February remained at \$1.295 per pound. The American

Metal Market buying price range for aluminum UBCs increased on February 13 to 89-91 cents per pound from 88-90 cents per pound and remained at that range for the rest of the month.

Update

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot in March decreased to \$1.29 per pound. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum UBCs decreased to 87-90 cents per pound on March 9. The price increased to 88-91 cents per pound on March 13, and increased again on March 20 to 91-93 cents per pound. The price range declined to 90-92 cents per pound on March 27 and remained at that range for the rest of the month.

TABLE 1
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery ²			Imports for consumption			Total new supply ³	Total stocks, end of period ⁴
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2006 ^p	2,284	1,940	1,080	3,020	3,440	1,220	4,660	9,960	1,410
2006:									
February	179	158	85	243	247	87	333	756	1,480
March	198	164	94	258	289	104	393	849	1,460
April	190	158	90	247	353	103	456	893	1,480
May	197	160	90	250	318	106	424	870	1,430
June	189	162	92	254	298	109	407	850	1,430
July	192	165	92	256	249	111	360	808	1,450
August	185	166	109	275	315	111	426	887	1,430
September	183	160	90	250	289	102	391	823	1,480
October	190	161	80	241	259	100	359	790	1,410
November	188	163	84	247	233	99	332	766	1,400
December	196	153	89	242	241	89	330	768	1,410
January-February	376	326	174	500	595	184	778	1,660	1,480
2007:									
January	202	161	97	257	251	98	349	803	1,450
February	185	148	79	227	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
January-February	387	309	176	484	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

^pPreliminary. NA Not available.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except "Primary production"; may not add to totals shown.

²Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

³Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

⁴Inventory levels reflect total for both U.S. and Canadian producers; data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

TABLE 2
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM
PURCHASED NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Integrated aluminum companies		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery
2006 ^p	1,660	1,210	901	792	990 ^r	927	96	84	5	5	3,650	3,020
2006:												
February	130	95	76	68	77	72	8	7	(2)	(2)	292	243
March	141	103	79	71	82	77	8	7	(2)	(2)	311	258
April	135	97	79	71	77	72	8	7	(2)	(2)	299	247
May	138	100	66	58	90	84	8	7	(2)	(2)	302	250
June	138	100	74	66	86	81	8	7	(2)	(2)	307	254
July	136	99	76	68	88	82	8	7	(2)	(2)	308	256
August	167	126	71	64	83	78	8	7	(2)	(2)	330	275
September	135	98	77	69	80	75	8	7	(2)	(2)	300	250
October	130	94	69	62	83	78	8	7	(2)	(2)	289	241
November	139	103	76	61	81	76	8	7	(2)	(2)	304	247
December	134	98	82	66	76	71	8	7	(2)	(2)	299	242
January-February	265	195	152	136	164	153	16	14	1	1	598	500
2007:												
January	136	102	84	66	88	82	8	7	(2)	(2)	315	257
February	116	84	72	54	88	82	8	7	(2)	(2)	283	227
January-February	252	186	156	120	176	164	16	14	(2)	(2)	598	484

^rRevised. ^pPreliminary.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Less than ½ unit.

TABLE 3
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN FEBRUARY 2007¹

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	96,700	116,000	70,000	83,800
Integrated aluminum companies	71,600	71,600	53,800	53,800
Independent mill fabricators	73,100	87,700	68,500	82,100
Foundries	6,600	7,910	5,800	6,950
Other consumers	284	341	284	341
Total	248,000	283,000	198,000	227,000

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 4
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN FEBRUARY 2007¹

(Metric tons)

	February				January-February	
	Stocks, opening	Net receipts ³	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts ²	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Extrusion	21,400	67,700	71,800	17,400	131,000	131,000
Can stock clippings	1,730	15,100	16,100	790	52,400	52,700
Other wrought sheet/clippings	4,120 ^r	24,400	24,100	4,410	46,200	45,900
Casting	2,780	4,620	3,570	3,820	12,300	11,100
Borings and turnings	3,030	11,000	8,600	5,450	22,400	19,900
Dross and skimmings	3,480	31,300	30,900	3,840	62,000	61,500
Total new scrap	36,600 ^r	154,000	155,000	35,700	326,000	322,000
Old scrap:						
Used castings	3,430	12,700	12,600	3,470	26,500	26,600
Used extrusion	419	2,640	2,630	431	5,330	5,300
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	1,890	47,000	47,600	1,310	101,000	103,000
Other wrought products	2,340	21,800	21,800	2,340	41,600	41,600
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	2,550	12,500	7,750	7,300	29,400	24,600
Total old scrap	10,600	96,600	92,400	14,800	203,000	201,000
Sweated pig	198	790	790	198	1,580	1,580
Total all classes	47,400 ^r	252,000	248,000	50,700	531,000	525,000

^rRevised.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes revised data from previous month(s).

³Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 2007^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	February				January-February	
	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	2,370	1,440	1,400	2,420	2,680	2,770
380 and variations	4,040	12,000	13,200	2,850	26,900	27,200
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	1,140	1,660	1,680	1,120	3,280	3,350
No. 319 and variations	1,040	7,180	5,830	2,390	11,800	11,200
F-132 alloy and variations	705	1,700	1,690	717	3,410	3,380
Al-Zn alloys	316	168	182	302	372	377
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	41	24	24	41	48	48
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	283	411	411	283	823	823
Other ³	3,730	7,950	7,660	4,020	16,000	16,200
Wrought alloys, extrusion billets	10,700	18,800	18,700	10,900	37,900	37,300
Total all alloys	24,400	51,300	50,700	25,000	103,000	103,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	9,320	XX	XX	18,600	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	2,010	XX	XX	4,540	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	1,380	XX	XX	1,900	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot ⁴	XX	38,600	XX	XX	78,200	XX

XX Not applicable.

¹Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

⁴No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN JANUARY 2007¹

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Scrap	Total
Argentina	3,090	15	--	3,100
Australia	4,580	14	813	5,410
Bahrain	2,080	1,450	--	3,530
Belgium	29	1,580	--	1,610
Brazil	6,030	3,110	--	9,140
Canada	163,000	40,200	28,100	232,000
China	4,800	14,400	1	19,300
France	225	353	20	597
Germany	226	8,180	13	8,420
Hungary	--	16	--	16
Italy	(2)	904	--	904
Japan	--	1,170	68	1,240
Korea, Republic of	66	68	--	134
Mexico	1,330	1,720	9,380	12,400
Netherlands	42	229	--	271
Norway	265	78	--	343
Russia	41,400	5,270	538	47,200
South Africa	4,560	4,520	--	9,080
Spain	11	124	--	135
Sweden	--	60	--	60
Switzerland	--	489	--	489
United Arab Emirates	7,820	--	18	7,840
United Kingdom	307	398	4	709
Venezuela	2,190	486	86	2,760
Other	8,510	13,000	4,610	26,100
Total	251,000	97,900	43,600	392,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN JANUARY 2007¹

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Scrap	Total
Australia	49	82	--	131
Azerbaijan	--	3	--	3
Belgium	24	514	--	538
Brazil	4	1,090	79	1,180
Canada	9,270	37,800	13,400	60,500
China	15	1,270	53,500	54,800
Czech Republic	--	30	--	30
Dominican Republic	10	34	--	43
France	15	1,300	--	1,320
Germany	78	1,050	18	1,150
Hong Kong	100	828	2,080	3,010
India	8	45	595	648
Israel	162	317	--	479
Italy	8	251	--	259
Japan	660	1,390	3,600	5,650
Korea, Republic of	57	1,140	18,600	19,800
Malaysia	6	100	65	170
Mexico	19,200	21,800	6,530	47,600
Netherlands	1,530	57	--	1,590
Russia	--	3	--	3
Saudi Arabia	--	2,500	--	2,500
Singapore	(2)	138	6	145
Spain	3	68	22	93
Sweden	9	7	--	16
Taiwan	81	314	6,420	6,820
Thailand	(2)	1,030	746	1,780
United Kingdom	25	1,430	67	1,530
Venezuela	--	112	--	112
Other	727	4,020	1,850	6,600
Total	32,100	78,800	108,000	218,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.